

The North Carolina Standard.

THOMAS LORING,

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

THE CONSTITUTION AND THE UNION OF THE STATES—THEY "MUST BE PRESERVED."

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REMARKS OF MR. BROWN, OF NORTH CAROLINA.

In reply to Mr. PRESTON, made in debate on the Bill to authorise the Branch Mints in North Carolina and Georgia to coin the smaller denominations of silver change, in Senate, April 17, 1840.

MR. BROWN said he would quote one or two facts having an important bearing on the subject. The gentleman had been quoting from the official documents of 1838, by which it appeared that the coinage at these mints had been less in amount than the returns for the last year exhibited. Now the official documents received this session, represented the coinage of the North Carolina branch mint at \$162,767 50, and that of the Georgia branch at \$128,880, in gold, making together the sum of \$291,647 50. He saw in the appropriation bill for the present year, only twelve thousand dollars appropriated for the branch mint at Charlotte, North Carolina, and eleven thousand five hundred for the branch in Georgia. The sums appropriated last year were, he presumed, greater, in consequence of some expense to complete these establishments, which would not be hereafter required. Thus, sir, we have had a coinage at these mints of near \$300,000 within the last year, and yet this is considered by gentlemen a very small matter, too trifling to justify the expense of keeping up these mints. Why, in Philadelphia, by the failure of a single individual, the community had lost about two hundred thousand dollars, by the worthless shillings which he had put in circulation, and never redeemed. Mr. B. then took a view of the great saving to the people of the South, which would be effected by having a sufficient supply of small change. The gentleman, in speaking of the State of N. Carolina, undertook to say that that State had always had a larger paper circulation than any other State. This was not so. North Carolina, in proportion to her population, had a smaller circulation of bank paper than many of her sister States. There was no State in which there were fewer small notes in circulation, and none which had a greater proportion of silver change in circulation, having prohibited by law the issuing of notes of a less denomination than three dollars. The gentleman from South Carolina responded very promptly to the suggestion of his friend from Kentucky. Sell out the branch mints, he says. What, sir, sell out these mints when they are supplying an annual coinage of near \$300,000? And who shall we sell them out to? To some bank corporation he supposed, or shaving establishment, to manufacture shillings in. This might suit the views of the gentleman who opposed this bill, but it would not be so well received by the people at large.

MR. PRESTON said he was not so much frightened by this cry of "shillings," by which a certain party in this country always attempted to answer the arguments used against them. He had showed that these mints cost twenty per cent. on the amount coined, and the answer of the gentleman from North Carolina was, "shillings!" When we speak of defaulters running off to Europe with the public money in their pockets, the answer is, "shillings!" Gentlemen have their imaginations tortured to death with these phantoms of paper currency shillings, and they conjure them up on all occasions, without sense or reason. When it is asked if these mints had added to the specie circulation of the country, it is answered, No—but, "shillings!" Have they involved an expense without an equivalent? Yes—but, "shillings!" Oh, yes; but, "shillings!" The gentleman from N. Carolina [Mr. Brown] says that his State is free from the circulation of shillings, and had smaller paper circulation than her sister States, in proportion to her population. He begged leave to differ in opinion with the gentleman on this subject. The notes of the North Carolina banks were pushed into the adjacent States, and were known as far as Georgia. With regard to the proposition he submitted, he had no other object in view but the public good. He thought that the portion of the property of this country which had been invested in these mints was unprofitably employed, and he was not disposed, in consequence of a mere party slang, or a dread of bank paper, to impair the interests of the country by suffering it to remain so.

MR. BROWN would say a few words in reply to the very temperate lecture of the gentleman from South Carolina. He regretted that the sensibilities of the Senator should be excited on this subject, whether by any remarks made by him casually in the course of the debate, or by the mere mention of the odious subject of a metallic currency, he should not undertake to determine. The gentleman, driven from the ground of his argument, driven from the positions he attempted in vain to establish, had endeavored to retreat, under a display of wit, and by ringing all the various changes upon the word, "shillings." The gentleman possessed considerable powers as an orator and a writer, and he doubtless possessed musical and poetical talents of a high order. Now, he would recommend to the gentleman to turn these words into poetry, and set them to music, and he would then be able to give them more effect, when he wanted to display his wit at the expense of a metallic currency.

At a warmer period of the year, when the sun poured down its burning rays with baleful influence, he had heard of the prevalence of a disease called the hydrophobia, the characteristic of which was that both men and animals, when afflicted with it, were seized with a dread of water. Now, from witnessing the sensibilities of some gentlemen whenever the subject of a metallic currency was introduced, he should suppose that there was such a disease as the specie-phobia, and that those suffering under it were seized with a horror of gold and silver. Whenever it is proposed to adopt measures for increasing the supply of the gold and silver coinage, we are answered with the cry of "gold humbug." When we speak of the abuses of the banking system, and wish to counteract the effects of the bloated paper system, we are answered with the same cry of "gold humbug." When we are called on to prevent the banks from getting absolute supremacy over the affairs of the country, we are again answered with the magical cry of "gold humbug." There was a potency in this phrase that overcame all arguments in the estimation of honorable gentlemen; and he would now recommend to the gentleman from South Carolina, when he is setting his favorite song of "shillings" to music, that he will introduce the no less captivating phrase of "gold humbug" in the measure.

But the gentleman said that he did not introduce party politics into the discussion. Did I not, continued Mr. B. hear the words "gold humbug" used from the other side of the chamber? And have I not heard this slang designed to dupe the ignorant and mislead the unwary, rung again and again, whenever any measure is in agitation to improve the currency of the country? But the gentleman had no design to introduce party politics into the discussion; his soul rises above every consideration connected with party feeling. Nothing of this sort was on his mind when he reminded us of those leg sub-treasurers who have absconded with large sums of the public money. But had the gentleman forgotten that within a very few days past, a bank sub-treasurer in a neighboring city (Richmond) has run off with half a million of dollars? Has he forgotten that other paper sub-treasurers have, in other parts of the country, very recently done the same thing? But when we talk of infusing a greater quantity of metallic currency into the circulation of the country, and preventing the banks from using the revenues of the Government to swell out their issues, we are met with such arguments as "gold humbug," "leg sub-treasurers," and other such phrases so common in the political vocabulary of a certain party.

But, said Mr. B. there was another word which the gentleman had eloquently harped upon, and he thanked him for it. That word was economy. He hoped that they would hereafter give a practical evidence of the sincerity of their professions in regard to economy. He had seen gentlemen voting for near half a million of dollars for books to supply themselves, and furnish profitable jobs to their political partisans, in the course of the last six or eight years; and yet they cannot vote this trifling expense for an object calculated to promote the convenience and interest of the people. When he came to reflect on this, he could not avoid coming to the conclusion that gentlemen who were so fond of supplying themselves with books, at the public expense, were friends of the paper system out and out. The gentleman talked about selling out these branch mints, and no doubt they were sincere. And he had no doubt, if they were set up at auction, that some bank would become the purchaser, for the purpose of flooding the country with its irredeemable paper; and we should again have some bank sub-treasurer fleeing from them with his half a million.

NORTH CAROLINA BRANCH MINT.

Branch Mint of the United States,
Charlotte, N. C., Feb. 10, 1840.

SIR: Yours of the 2d ultimo, inclosing the resolutions of the Senate of the 30th December last, as regards (among other subjects) the gold mines of this region, has been duly received.

You request me to afford you "all the information in my power with regard to the particulars involved in the ninth or last item—being the annual product of the gold mines of the United States, and the time of their discovery."

I had been, for some time previous to the receipt of your letter, acquiring such information, as a correspondence with intelligent gentlemen, and a close observation of such mining operations as came under my notice, would elicit; but I regret that the material as yet collected will not allow me to reply as satisfactorily to your letter as I could wish. Should, however, future investigation, and the inquiries I have set on foot, lead to any interesting information on the points presented by you, I will take the liberty of making it the subject of an early communication.

I will take the latter part of your query first—as to the time of the discovery of the mines.

In November, 1824, Professor Olmsted, now of Yale college, then professor of chemistry and mineralogy in the University of North Carolina, presented a report on the geology of North Carolina to the board of agriculture, in which he estimates the "gold region to cover an area of not less than 1,000 miles." This paper, accompanied by some geological speculations, was published, in 1825, in the American Journal of Science. Subsequent discoveries, however, assure us, that a succession of gold mines exist from the vicinity of the Potomac river to the State of Alabama. But it is of this immediate region that I shall venture, or am expected, to say anything.

The first mine discovered in this State was Reid's in the southeast part of Cabarrus county, in 1801 or 1802. Parker's mine, in Montgomery county (which adjoins Cabarrus), was discovered in 1815, on the same stream (Meadow creek.) In about 1818, Dunn's mine was discovered in this county (Mecklenburg,) about eight miles northwest of Charlotte. The mines of Burke county were discovered in 1828. From these periods down to the present time new mines, of more or less value, have been daily discovered. These mines are of two kinds:

I. Alluvial deposits, or surface mines, and

II. Vein mines.

The first class occupied the early attention of miners, and is still extensively carried on in Burke, Rutherford, and other auriferous regions of the western part of North Carolina. The

precious metal is here obtained by washing away the sand (or pebbles of quartz,) and is a simple process.

The latter class (the vein mines) constitute, principally, the mines in the vicinity of Charlotte, where the gold is found by excavation; and is not distinguishable, by the eye, in the ore. The ore is reduced by machinery, using quick-silver for detaching the gold from the earthy substances. These veins are considered by miners to constitute the most considerable repositories of metallic matter. "They," says Professor Mitchell, the present professor of mineralogy at the University of North Carolina, "consist of quartz, of a porous, vesicular structure, containing oxide of iron, iron pyrites, and gold." Such veins are not, as might be supposed from the general application of the term, tubes filled with metal, or ore; but extended plates, or laminae, of unequal thickness; and they differ essentially from beds, in that they do not run parallel with the direction of the strata, but cross them vertically at different degrees of inclination.

Most of the metallic veins in this region are from six inches to four feet in thickness, and their course or dip with the horizon forms an angle of about forty-five degrees. The greatest depth that any shaft has been sunk in these mines to this period is 175 feet (the Charlotte mine;) another has gone down 163 feet (the Capps mine.)

In the early workings of these mines, the gold was found in small pieces from the size of a pennyweight down to particles of extreme minuteness.

In 1803, at Reid's mine, a negro found one lump that weighed twenty-eight pounds avoirdupois. This mass was worth \$8,000. Hitherto, the largest piece of gold in one mass, found in Europe, says Jameson, in his Mineralogy (III. 10,) only weighed twenty-two ounces. This was found at the mines of Micklow, in Ireland. These specimens of the mineral wealth of our State are of great beauty.

Professor Olmsted states that Mr. Reid found at his mine a mass of white flint (quartz) having a projecting point of gold of the size of a pin's head. On breaking it open, a brilliant display of green and yellow colors was presented, which was described as being exceedingly beautiful. The gold weighed twelve pennyweights.

It is to be regretted that there was not some depository established at that time; and that these earlier and splendid specimens of the mineral wealth of the country were carried abroad to decorate the museums and cabinets of other nations. The liberality of our Government now affords, at the mother-mint, in Philadelphia, a proper deposit for them; and patriotism, as well as interest, will dictate to those in this region, who may hereafter find these specimens, not to destroy them. I have met with one mass weighing, in the ore, about seventy-five ounces, which yielded nearly \$1,000 to the owner, Mr. Belk, of Lancaster, South Carolina. Specimens of this character would always produce more to the owner than their intrinsic value as gold. Before leaving this point, however, it is proper to say, that the mines in this region are not extensively worked, nor yet fully developed. Nearly all those who have been engaged in mining for the last four years are the farmers or owners of the soil, who take opportune occasions when not engaged in their farms to work their mines. The large companies have either been dissolved or are dormant. So far as the shafts have gone down in the vein mines, experience furnishes no reason to doubt their durability or richness. The veins continue to be well defined, and many of them retain their first size; others become larger and richer. Mr. Rothe, a miner and mineralogist, from Saxony, in some notes on the gold mines of North Carolina, published in Siliman's Journal, states that "veins of two feet in thickness, in other mining countries, have been followed 2,000 feet deep with little or no variation." He states that the veins in these mines are "from two to four feet in thickness;" and, after a careful examination, he concludes that these ores will compare with any in Europe, and "richer than those of Brazil."

The important and most difficult point is yet to be answered: What are the annual products of the mines?

It is not to be expected that perfect accuracy can be attained on this point, even by the most patient investigation, or laborious research. The actual amount coined at the mints of the United States is certain.

The amount coined at Philadelphia from North Carolina, up to 1838, was (see report of Director of the mint, Senate Doc. No. 98, 25th Congress, 3d session) \$2,648,500 00
80,565 00
In 1839, at Charlotte 162,727 00

2,811,227 00

Taking an average of ten years, this would be about \$300,000 per annum, coined at the mints of the United States, from the mines of North Carolina.

An article in the American Almanac for 1832 (a work of great practical use and accuracy,) under the head of North Carolina, states that "the weekly product of the mines was \$100,000, or \$5,000,000 annually; and that by far the larger portion of the bullion went to Europe, particularly to Paris, and that but a small portion was coined at the United States mint, Philadelphia."

I did not reside in this section of North Carolina at that period, and have no data by which I am enabled to pronounce upon the correctness of this statement. There can be no doubt but by far the most extensive working of the mines was done from the year 1830 to 1834; and I am led to believe, from a careful examination of facts, that the coinage of the mint at Philadelphia afforded no very certain criterion of the products of the mines.

In venturing this statement, I would give some reasons that influenced my opinion.

1. Many of the mines, in their most productive state, belonged to foreigners, or were leased by them; the agents, or managers, were also foreigners; and the capital, also, was from abroad. The agents then often made prompt returns by remitting the bullion direct to Europe. This was the case with the Chevalier Rivisnoli.

2. On directing a diligent inquiry among the merchants in this place, and other purchasers of gold bullion, I find that many of them carried

their bullion direct to New York, which was there assayed and sold; and from thence sent as remittances to Europe. One merchant (in whose integrity I place much confidence, as also in his integrity) states that his purchases of gold, from 1828 to 1839, was nearly \$300,000, as copied from his bullion accounts; and that three-fourths of it went to New York, and was there assayed and sold. Another states that his purchases, since 1828, have averaged \$6,000 per annum; and that he carried nearly all to New York, and from thence sent to Europe. One reason why they carried their bullion to New York was, as they assert, that the assayers there gave an additional value above the mint, for the purposes of commerce. This, I presume, was the addition of the premium.

3. Another reason why I conclude that the records of the mint show no certain proof of the amount of bullion produced in this section is, that there is a private manufactory of coin in this region (Mr. Echter, of Rutherford) which has coined a large portion of the gold produced in the counties of Burke and Rutherford. He states that from January, 1831, to February, 1840, he coined \$2,241,840 50, and fluxed (or melted in bars) 1,729,998 pennyweights (see note A in appendix). Much of this bullion may have been coined at Philadelphia; but as it answered the purposes of trade, and the community having confidence in the purity of the metal, much of it is carried by travellers, emigrants, traders, and others, into Kentucky, Tennessee, and elsewhere, that probably never found its way to the mint. From our experience, but little has been coined; at least we have not received \$500 of it here. Much of it, it is supposed, is still extant among the farmers of the country, laid up with prudent foresight for future use, as well in this section of country as in Tennessee and Kentucky, as at the time it was coined a safe currency. This, too, is a powerful argument in favor of the propriety of the establishment, by the Government, at an earlier period, in this region, of a mint; when necessity the proper parent of invention, forced more than \$3,000,000 of coin among the people, not being any official guaranty of its purity, or any twice emblematic of a national character.

4. Another reason why I do not think the mint records show the full amount produced by the mines is, that much of the bullion is sold to manufacturers in bars or grains, which of course never reaches the mint. I leave it to others more conversant with such statistics, to say how much this is to be estimated.

In a report on a similar subject, to the Legislature of North Carolina, in 1839, I find the fact stated, that, in 1819, in France alone, there was used, solely for watches, \$300,000. In a late extract from an English journal, it is stated that "£50,000 sterling is annually used in Birmingham for plating, and thereby for ever lost as bullion." In a note to some remarks on the gold mines of North Carolina, by Mr. Ruther, already referred to, in Siliman's Journal, it is stated that the last report of the United States mint, in 1826, shows that about \$20,000 of N. Carolina gold was coined at that institution in that year. "It is well known," says he, "that but a small portion of the gold found at these mines goes to the mint. The silversmiths of every portion of the country, north and south, purchase it up to be wrought into jewelry and plate of all descriptions. It is preferred by them on many accounts, to gold coin; and consequently they give a better price than the mint." Then, if I am correct that the records of the mint afford evidence of the total or annual product of these mines, what is their annual product?

I find in 1830, in a report to the Legislature of North Carolina, the fact stated, that the product of the mines in that year was \$500,000. I should suppose that this is not far from the fact at the time, for the mint at Philadelphia coined from the bullion of North Carolina, in 1833, \$475,000, and in 1832, \$458,000. Colonel J. T. Avery, the agent of the Bank of the State, at Morganton, whose intelligence and experience give much weight to his opinion, in a letter to me, estimates the total products of Burke and Rutherford alone to be \$6,000,000, while, adds he, "Mr. Forney and others who lived among the mines, estimated the gross amount at \$12,000,000." "The products of the mines," he concludes, "have been gradually diminishing since 1835, when the high price of cotton drew off the greater portion of the force to the south-west."

I therefore, in conclusion, would state it as my opinion, that the mines of this section of our country have yielded ten millions of dollars since their discovery (see note B in appendix); and that their annual product at this time is at least \$400,000 (see note C in appendix). This is made, too, amid the pressure of the times, the neglected state of many of the best mines, with a small and inadequate force, by chiefly the farmers or owners of the soil, under great disadvantages, such as want of experience, machinery, &c. I offer this statement with much diffidence (as regards the total products of the mines being \$10,000,000, and their annual product at present being \$400,000) for, in the first place, it is impossible to obtain perfect accuracy in the matter; and secondly, I premised in the commencement of this communication, is too short "to allow me to reply as satisfactorily to your letter as I could wish;" and finally, if these results should be erroneous, I have carefully given, in the appendix, the data whereby I arrived at them, and the errors, if any, can be easily detected.

The mining interest in this section is reviving, and the mines will be more extensively worked. A recent investigation by scientific men, aided by ample capital, has resulted in their making a heavy investment. Other companies, now dormant, will renew operations soon. This added to the low price of cotton and of labor, and the increased value of gold, will, with the favorable indications presented by the mines themselves, give additional impetus to mining operations. The Rudisil mine, in sight of the mint, is now yielding handsomely. In Burke, in the alluvial mines, "last week twenty-six hands raised 2,600 pennyweights;" and this mint, under all the disadvantages incident to a new establishment, coined in last year \$162,767 50, all of native bullion. This last, though not least, inducement to mining is now in complete order and successful operation, and by affording an expeditious conversion of the bullion into national coin, without any expense, acts as an immedi-

ate and direct encouragement to mining operations.

I have the honor to be,
Very respectfully, your obdt servt,
JNO. H. WHEELER, Sup.
Hon. LEVI WOODBURY, Sec. Treasury,
Washington City.

COMMUNICATIONS.

FOR THE NORTH CAROLINA STANDARD.
"Large Streams from little fountains flow
"Tall Oaks from little acorns grow."

MR. EDITOR: When we look minutely into the history of the human family, we are struck with the marked singularity of the traits that distinguish man from most of the orders that staid before him. Every day teaches us, that singularity is a prominent feature in his composition, and that ambition, avarice, pride and dissimulation are large share holders of the common stock. Miserable religious fanatics constantly fit across his path, and he who bears the character of forming the topmost link in the chain of animated existence and of possessing the highest reach of intellectual power, is not unfrequently found violating all the principles of honor, desecrating virtue itself, and worshipping at the shrine of self-interest. Sometimes, pride is the predominant sin of man; then, he grows enthusiastic on the subject of his own greatness, and in time falls a victim to self-esteem. Avarice of itself is a low quality, and not being able to stand the test of respectability on its own footing, generally forms a coalition with ambition and dissimulation, and the compound is enabled to pass down a current that either by itself would founder in. I repeat, that man is an enigma, but only an enigma that has long since been solved—a perfect tissue of deception. With more than usual force, have these truths been recently presented to us at many points of our political horizon. I cannot say compass because our dear country and vital Liberty may fail of their attractive power.

I cannot but believe that Democracy—that same democracy that now stands before our country for adoption or rejection, is the true people's government, and that when they, the people, have frowned upon it, they have done it by a forced march, and by the introduction of customs foreign to their vital interests, customs that now threaten to divide us both in sentiment and in person. It is hard for the mind to fix upon a government or policy whose parts are, under all circumstances, equal to the whole, or like the moon whose phases invariably return the full blown brilliancy of the sun. And if Democracy fail to do these things they can boast of principles that approach nearer to a policy founded in nature, to whose rules we have abundant reason to conform, than any we have seen fall from the hands of Federal Whiggery. The Democrats do not arrogate to themselves perfection. Fallibility is the common lot of man, but conscious wrong is an invasion on rights that deserves the infliction of heavy punishment.

No debts, dealings or sinister motives, no hankering after the "fleshpots" should ever induce a man to prove unfaithful to his country, or infringe upon her most sacred constitution.

If there is a feature in the federal doctrines of the present critical period that stands in bolder relief than the rest, it is the Bank feature, this is the great splitter, the great man changer. And without a discussion of this fretted question, I need only say, to fix upon us another vampire Bank is the distinguishing article in the Federal creed. And more desperate efforts and more night thought schemes to carry a measure have rarely tortured the brains of a party than are now being exhibited in the land. A war of conventions has been well maintained on either hand, and meetings have not been sparse. But the late young or infant meeting held in your city declares to the world that some remarkable catastrophe is about to befall the whig ranks. There is thunder before rain, and awful rumblings portend the approach of an earthquake; and on one memorable occasion, the mountains were heard to make a great noise.

It is said our country is "big" with a monster and Granny Harrison has been selected to attend her confinement; but anticipating an instrumental delivery Mr. Badger himself has volunteered his services, and drawn with him in the general consultation the best half of an hundred of the younger members of the delivering profession. What may we not expect from so corpulent a body. But that there are apprehensions even on the mind of Mr. Badger for the fate of his patient, there is no question; for his friends say he is on all occasions "convulsing his audience with laughter," and I suppose keeping their spirits up, together with those of his patient, with potent draughts of "hard cider."

We had been always taught that gravity and dignity of demeanor were necessary accompaniments, and were calculated to inspire confidence on those trying occasions. But I distinctly recollect, when a boy, and had to pass by a certain old church yard, I never failed to whistle; and on the ensuing trial of strength if Dandy Jack is led into the ring he may prove a perfect heart's ease.

If we could lay down all personal respect, to the attainment of party ends, we have but little doubt that we should be gratified that Mr. Badger had entered the list; for he will most probably drag heavily on his party. We think so, because he is believed to be a genuine Federalist; in the common acceptance of the term—

an enemy to popular rights—an aristocrat, in whose face the breath of a poor man is only equal to the halitus of a rattlesnake—and in whose views, the expression of an opinion on self evident facts is treason. But if he can do his party good, he has our fullest approbation. We have no presentiment of harm; he has talents of a high order, and we are by no means friendly to that chrysalis state in which Mr. Badger has wanted to hold himself. We hold it that every good citizen is a good soldier, and in some respects common property to his country, and should serve it to the best known principles of right.

The Whigs may succeed. Mr. Harrison with the assistance of his consultants may prove a useful Sage Femme; and present to these United States another double headed Janus—a real buster; but it is to be hoped in this case the faculty will not fail to concoct some remedy propitious for after-pains.

A COUNTRY CUSTOMER.

FOR THE NORTH CAROLINA STANDARD.
Chowan Co., N. C. 2nd April, 1840.

MR. EDITOR: As it is very important that you should have correct information, with respect to the political complexion of the times in the North-eastern section of the State of North Carolina: and as it is highly necessary and essential that the erroneous representations, so industriously made by the partisan presses of this region, should be refuted and exposed, I have been induced to solicit an occasional place in your columns, that the truth may be made known and disseminated throughout the State.

It is a common artifice of the Whigs to boast largely of the rapid strides in public favor, which their candidates are making—and in no place has this practice been resorted to with a more reckless and entire disregard of truth, than in the counties composing the First Congressional District of this State. To see and believe the inflated statements of these bragging scribblers, one would suppose that the people, en masse, had renounced and abjured the doctrines and principles of the good old school of '98; that they had lost all veneration for the pure and simple opinions of a wise and gallant ancestry, and surrendered themselves up, soul and body, to the loving embraces of modern Whiggery.

But, sir—to the honor of the citizens of this District be it spoken—such is not the case. It is true that the Federal party succeeded in electing that renegade to his political faith, KENNETH RAYNER, of Mangum Revolution notoriety, to a seat in the national council, in opposition to Mr. SAWYER; but it is by no means true, that the success of Mr. Rayner is an evidence of the numerical superiority of the Whigs in this district. This is no idle or unfounded assertion; and I have not the least hesitancy in expressing it as my candid and unprejudiced opinion, that the approaching August elections will verify its correctness, and furnish conclusive proof that the people of this district are yet true to that political creed to which they have heretofore so nobly and steadfastly adhered.

We feel and acknowledge that we have a widely and powerful foe, with whom to contend; enemies who, notwithstanding their constant and repeated professions of fairness and open dealing, do not scruple to resort to any means to insure success to a desperate cause; but we are not to be deterred or intimidated by such considerations. We stand strong in the consciousness of a virtuous patriotism; determined to wrestle to the last, in defence of that equality of rights, which forms the watchword of republicanism, and which constitutes the crowning and distinguishing excellence of our government.

By the way, I have recently seen a letter, addressed by Mr. Rayner to his political condutors in this district, calling upon them to rally round the nominee of the Harrisburg convention for the Presidency, and giving sundry hints relative to the *modus operandi* to be pursued by the Whigs in the coming campaign. Yes, a letter from the representative of a party to a party! But of this more anon.

In the mean time, let the Democracy of the Old North State be well assured that the people of the First District are sound to the core, and that they will most assuredly and certainly be found performing their duty when the contest shall come to hand.

PUBLICOLA.

FOR THE NORTH CAROLINA STANDARD.
Orange Co., April 9th, 1840.

MR. LORING: I have read with feelings of unmingled gratification, the able letter of the Hon. GEO. W. HOPKINS, member of Congress, from Virginia, addressed to one of his constituents who solicited an expression of his opinions on the great contest now going on for the office of President. Mr. Hopkins, it will be remembered, was one of those individuals, who, in common with a great number of Democrats, experienced a temporary estrangement from the Administration, on the Independent Treasury bill. Avowing his determination, however, of confining his opposition to this single measure, and seeing the great lengths to which the "Knight of Castle Hill," and his Squires, have gone, he has, with commendable patriotism, merged his opposition to this measure, which he styles one of mere "expediency," in the importance of the approaching crisis. Mr. Hopkins deserves the thanks of the Democratic party, throughout the Republic. He lays open to the gaze of the pub-